REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough consideration provided the present application. Claims 1-7 are now present in the application. Claim 5 has been amended. Claims 1 and 5 are independent. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

Claim 5 has been objected to due to the presence of minor informalities. In view of the foregoing amendments, in which the Examiner's helpful suggestions have been followed, it is respectfully submitted that this objection has been addressed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Yamazaki, U.S. Patent No. 6,528,951. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 recites a combination of elements including "the power supply providing a voltage to control a shift of a loading curve of the driver unit by raising an electric potential of the output end of the driver unit, thereby minimizing a fluctuation of an output current of the driver unit among the plurality of pixel devices".

Independent claim 5 recites a combination of steps including "raising an electric potential of a drain electrode of the driver unit to shift a loading curve of the driver unit".

Applicants respectfully submit that the above combination of elements and steps as set forth in independent claims 1 and 5 are not disclosed nor suggested by the reference relied on by the Examiner.

Yamazaki discloses an EL display device including an EL element 1703 and the opposite electrode of the EL 1703 is connected to the external switch 116 (see FIGs. 4-6; col. 3. lines 1-17). Yamazaki also discloses that the during the writing period, the opposite electric potential is kept at the same level as the power supply electric potential; on the other hand, the opposite electric potential is changed in the display period so as to generate an electric difference between the opposite electric potential and the power supply electric potential which causes the EL element to emit light (see col. 3, lines 53-60).

In other words, the external switch 116 is switched to the right side (the power supply electric potential) during the writing period, and is switched to the left side (the ground) during the display period to generate an electric difference for emitting the EL element (see FIG. 5). For example, when the data stored in the capacitor 1704 is "1", during the display period, the driving TFT 1702 is on. Therefore, the potential of the pixel electrode of the EL element 1703 is the power supply electric potential (because TFT 1702 is on); the potential of the opposite electrode of the EL element 1703 is the ground (because the external switch 116 is

switched to the left side). Accordingly, the potential difference between the pixel electrode (the power supply electric potential) and the opposite electrode (the ground) of the EL elements would make the EL element emit light. However, the ground voltage cannot raise an electric potential of the output end of the driving TFT 1702 as recited in claims 1 and 5. Accordingly, Yamazaki fails to teach "the power supply providing a voltage to control a shift of a loading curve of the driver unit by raising an electric potential of the output end of the driver unit" as recited in claim 1 and "raising an electric potential of a drain electrode of the driver unit to shift a loading curve of the driver unit" as recited in claim 5.

Since Yamazaki fails to teach each and every limitation of independent claims 1 and 5, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 and 5 and their dependent claims clearly define over the teachings of Yamazaki. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Since the remaining patents cited by the Examiner have not been utilized to reject the claims, but merely to show the state of the prior art, no further comments are necessary with respect thereto.

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action, and that as such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to send the application to Issue.

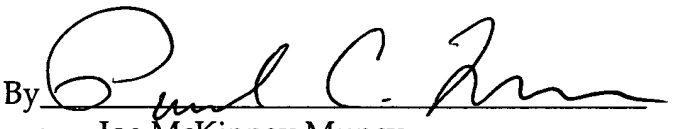
In the event there are any matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Joe McKinney Muncy, Registration No. 32,334 at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a), Applicants respectfully petition for a one (1) month extension of time for filing a response in connection with the present application and the required fee of $120.00 is attached herewith.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 
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